

ASIA-PACIFIC DESIGN UPDATE

Postmark East Malaysia: Fream breaks ground in Sabah

By HAL PHILLIPS

SABAH, East Malaysia — Architect Ron Fream, principal of Santa Rosa, Calif.-based Golfplan, keeps *Golf Course News* abreast of his overseas activities via the postcard. Every month or so, Fream drops the staff a line, telling of his work and adventures.

Fream and Robert Trent Jones II have been working in Asia-Pacific longer than any other American architects. His latest update arrived stateside from Sarawak on the former island of Borneo:

"Hello — The prime minister of Malaysia will inaugurate ground-breaking for our Karambunai resort course along the sea-side, north of Kotakinabalu Easter Sunday. The site is sand dunes, mangrove swamp and four miles of empty, white sandy beach! The environment here is unique — grand blue skies and great green forests. The sea is turquoise blue. And I get paid to be here? Best Wishes, R. Fream"

HOME COURSE ADVANTAGE?

LAGUNA QUAYS, Queensland, Australia — The new Turtle Point Golf Club here recently played host to the inaugural Australian Skins Game. This Graham/Panks design, which opened in 1993 will also be site of the Skins Game in 1995 and 1996.

Architect and former U.S. Open champion Dave Graham, a last-minute replacement for Nick Price, ended up winning the event — and \$70,000 — over Greg Norman, Ian Baker-Finch and Craig Parry. Apparently, design partner Gary Panks finished out of the money...

FOSTER IN THAILAND

CHIANG MAI, Thailand — Keith Foster and Associates of Phoenix, Ariz., has been retained by Prestige Properties Co., Ltd. of Bangkok to begin the design process for an 18-hole golf course here.

The resort layout, located near the King of Thailand's summer palace, will have a hotel and residential/business properties in its proximity.



UNDER THE COVER OF DARKNESS

Floodlights illuminate the East Course at Kuala Lumpur Golf & Country Club, a new Nelson, Wright, Haworth product. Lighted courses are becoming commonplace in Asia-Pacific.

GOLF STRATEGIES DEBUTS IN KUNTAN

KUNTAN, Malaysia — With Golf Strategies' first Asian course nearing completion in Malaysia, the design firm — under direction of principal and senior golf course architect Neil Crafter — has been retained to design 45 holes of golf at two separate locations on the Chinese mainland.

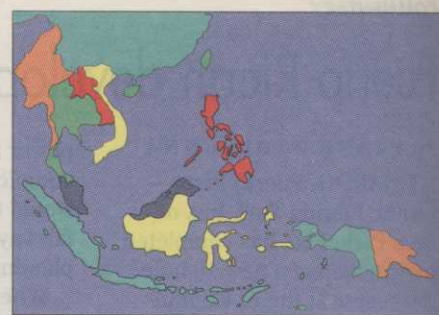
The Astana Golf Resort here in Kuntan is currently under construction, with an opening date scheduled for early 1995. This 27-hole member and resort course is located on the east coast of Malaysia in Pahang state, site of a former rubber and palm oil plantation.

Meanwhile, construction of the 27-hole Guangzhou South China Golf Club will soon commence near Zhenlong in Guangdong Province. Golf course approval has been granted, so ground should be

broken by mid-summer, according to Crafter. The development is slated to include a clubhouse and members hotel, together with commercial shopping facilities to serve the planned 500 villas in the residential precinct.

BATES, PIERMAN TEAM IN JAPAN

KAMEYAMA, Japan — Construction has begun on a high-end private golf course here in this resort area of Chiba Prefecture. A team from Pierman Golf Co. of North Palm Beach, Florida, and Scottsdale, Arizona, U.S.A., has been coordinating the project since February. Gene Bates and Associates of Palm Beach Gardens, Florida, is designing the 18-hole layout. Gary Bates, former U.S. construction manager for Jack Nicklaus Design, is project manager for Pierman.



"What they require as far as protection of environment is much more stringent and aggressive than anywhere in the U.S.," said Pierman of Chiba Prefecture.

CUPP TAKES ASIAN PLUNGE

Cupp Design Inc. has entered the Asian marketplace with the creation of Cupp Design International. Cupp offices in Atlanta and Oregon will support the firm's Asian business. Former U.S. Amateur Champion and PGA Rookie of the Year John Fought manages the Portland office. Michael Riley, who has extensive experience in Japan and Guam, is Cupp's East Coast design associate. Legends Golf Ventures-Asia of Singapore will represent Cupp in Asia.

For more information, contact H.H. Lim, Managing Director, Legends Golf Ventures-Asia, 4 Leng Kee Road, #02-05, Singapore 0315; telephone (65) 4722898. In the United States, contact Norman A. Carl, Legends Golf Ventures Ltd. 615-383-1464.

GRAVES ON THE SUBCONTINENT

BOMBAY, India — Veteran architect Robert Muir Graves has been retained to design a golf course here, as part of a residential complex supervised by Nikhil Vakharia, managing director of Fantasy Land. The project is being conducted with Byram Jeejeebhoy, director of the Jeejeebhoy Group of Companies and Madhu Vakharia, director of the Vakharia Group of Companies.

In East Malaysia, Robert Muir Graves Ltd. has signed on to design three more projects. Two contracts — Mt. Kinabalu Golf Course and Sabah Country Club — will be executed in Sabah, while Pinusuk Plateau Golf Course is located in Sarawak.



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